5 Alternatives to the Deeper Pro+ Smart Sonar (Including Better Options for Boats and Bank Fishing)

Best Deeper Pro+ alternatives for carp, pike and kayak anglers. Compare Garmin fishfinders, prices, features and the best value picks.

£215.00

★★★★☆ **4.4**/5 (2118 reviews)

Lowest Price

Products Featured in This Guide

Deeper Pro+ Smart Sonar Castable and Portable WiFi Fish Finder with Gps for Kaya...

£215.00 4.4★

deeper Flexible Arm 2.0 Fish Finders – Flexible Mounting Arm for Fishing Boat, B...

£54.99 4.4★

Garmin Striker Vivid 7cv, Easy-to-Use 7-inch Color Fishfinder and Sonar Transduc...

£392.76 4.6★

Garmin Striker Vivid 4cv, Easy-to-Use 4-inch Color Fishfinder and Sonar Transduc...

£206.50 4.6★

Garmin Striker Vivid 7sv, Easy-to-Use 7-inch Color Fishfinder and Sonar Transduc...

£476.95 4.6★

Garmin Striker 5cv with Transducer, 5" GPS Fishfinder with CHIRP Traditional and...

£458.79 4.5★

If you’re shopping for a Deeper Pro+ alternative, the first thing to decide is how you actually fish. The Deeper is brilliant for mobile anglers who want to cast from the bank, use it from a kayak, or quickly survey swims on stillwaters and rivers. But it’s not always the best value if you mainly fish from a boat, want a bigger display, or prefer a more permanent setup with a wired transducer. Here’s how the main alternatives stack up in real fishing terms.

Garmin Striker Vivid 4cv — £206.50 This is the closest-priced alternative to the Deeper Pro+ and, at £8.50 less, it’s actually a touch cheaper. The big difference is that the Garmin is a fixed fishfinder with a 4-inch colour screen and transducer, not a castable sonar unit. In practical terms, that means better day-to-day usability on a boat or kayak because you get a dedicated display instead of relying on your phone. For carp anglers on a small boat or anglers who want to read structure quickly, that’s a real advantage. The Vivid colour palettes also make it easier to pick out weed beds, ledges, and fish arches in bright conditions.

Build quality is excellent, as you’d expect from Garmin. It feels more robust than a castable unit and is less likely to be affected by phone battery drain, Wi-Fi glitches, or app connection issues. The trade-off is portability: you need to mount it and wire it in, so it’s not as quick to deploy from the bank. If your fishing is mostly from a float tube, kayak, or boat, this is a very sensible buy. If you’re a roving bank angler who wants to scan a swim before casting, the Deeper still has the edge for convenience.

Verdict: choose the Striker Vivid 4cv if you want a more dependable, screen-based fishfinder and don’t need castable portability. It’s one of the best-value alternatives for boat and kayak anglers.

Garmin Striker Vivid 7cv — £392.76 At nearly £178 more than the Deeper Pro+, the 7cv is a definite step up in price, but you’re paying for a much larger 7-inch screen and a far more comfortable viewing experience. That bigger display matters more than many anglers expect. When you’re trying

to read contours, baitfish movement, or the edge of a weedline on a breezy day, a 7-inch screen is far easier to interpret than a small handheld or phone display. For carp fishing on large pits, or pike fishing where you're searching broad areas of water, the extra screen real estate is a genuine advantage.

Compared with the Deeper, it's less portable and not something you'd casually cast around the bank. It's a proper mounted sonar unit, so it suits anglers with boats, kayaks, or a more permanent setup. The build quality is solid and the display is the main selling point: it feels more "serious" and less fiddly than app-based sonar. You're also getting Garmin's reputation for reliability, which matters if you fish hard in winter when you don't want tech letting you down.

Verdict: go for the 7cv if you fish from a boat or kayak and want a bigger, easier-to-read screen. It's better than the Deeper for clarity and comfort, but it's not the right choice for bank anglers who need a castable unit.

Garmin Striker Vivid 7sv — £476.95 This is the most expensive option here, costing £261.95 more than the Deeper Pro+. So why pay that much? Because the 7sv is the most capable of the Garmin options listed, and for anglers who want the best view of what's under the water, it offers the most detail. The key practical difference is the scanning sonar capability, which is a big deal when you're trying to identify cover, bait concentrations, and hard vs soft bottom transitions. If you're hunting pike in weedy margins or working a large gravel pit for carp, that extra detail can save a lot of wasted casts.

In terms of build quality, it's premium and designed for regular use on boats and kayaks. It's not portable in the Deeper sense, but it's a more complete fishfinding system. The larger screen and advanced sonar make it easier to make confident decisions, especially when fishing unfamiliar venues. The downside is obvious: it's expensive, and for many carp anglers it's overkill unless they spend a lot of time on the water and really value detailed sonar imaging.

Verdict: choose the 7sv if you want the most advanced option here and fish from a boat or kayak often enough to justify the cost. It's the strongest pick for serious explorers of big waters, but it's not a budget-friendly Deeper replacement.

Garmin Striker 5cv with Transducer — £458.79 This one is £243.79 more than the Deeper Pro+, so it's firmly in premium territory. The main attraction is the built-in Quickdraw Contours mapping software, which is extremely useful if you fish lakes, reservoirs, or big pits where mapping your own route matters. For anglers who like to build a picture of a venue over time, Quickdraw is a proper advantage. Instead of just seeing sonar returns in the moment, you can create your own contour maps and revisit productive areas with much more confidence.

The 5-inch screen sits in the middle ground: larger and easier to use than the Deeper app experience, but not as expansive as the 7-inch Garmins. Build quality is strong and the unit feels like a proper bit of kit rather than a gadget. The trade-off is that it's less compact and less versatile from the bank. If your fishing is mainly carp from the shoreline and you need to scan swims on foot, the

Deeper still wins for portability. If you fish from a boat or kayak and want mapping tools, this Garmin offers more long-term value.

Verdict: pick the Striker 5cv if mapping is important and you fish waters where building your own contours will help you find features season after season. It's better for serious boat-based anglers than for mobile bank fishing.

Deeper Flexible Arm 2.0 — £54.99 This isn't a fishfinder, but it's an important alternative if you already like the Deeper ecosystem or you're trying to improve how you use a castable sonar. At £160.01 less than the Deeper Pro+, it's obviously not a replacement for the sonar unit itself, but it can be the right buy if you already own compatible gear and need a better mounting solution for a boat, belly boat, or kayak. The practical benefit is stability: a proper mount reduces faff, helps keep the sonar positioned correctly, and makes scanning more consistent when you're drifting or paddling.

Build quality is decent and it feels purpose-built for angling rather than a generic accessory. The flexible arm is useful when you need to adjust position quickly on the water, especially in windy conditions or when fishing awkwardly from a small craft. The limitation is simple: it doesn't solve the main issue if you actually need a fishfinder. It's an accessory, not a full alternative.

Verdict: buy this only if you already have a compatible Deeper or you're looking to upgrade your mounting setup. It's not for replacing the sonar unit, but it can make a Deeper-style setup far more practical on a boat or kayak.

So which alternative is best? If you want the closest like-for-like value, the Garmin Striker Vivid 4cv is the standout because it's slightly cheaper than the Deeper Pro+ and gives you a proper screen-based sonar system. If you fish bigger waters and want clearer imaging, the 7cv or 7sv are stronger but much more expensive. If mapping is your priority, the Striker 5cv is the clever long-term choice. And if you're already in the Deeper world, the Flexible Arm 2.0 is a useful add-on rather than a true substitute.

In practical UK fishing terms, the Deeper still makes sense for mobile carp anglers, bank explorers, and anyone who wants to scan a swim quickly in spring or autumn without fitting a full system. But if you spend more time on boats, kayaks, or bigger open-water venues, a Garmin fixed fishfinder will usually give you a better screen, stronger build, and a more confident read on structure and fish movement.

Still Buy the Original If...

Buy the Deeper Pro+ if you need a truly castable, portable sonar for bank fishing, quick swim checks, or mobile carp sessions where a fixed screen unit would be awkward. It's still the best fit for anglers who value freedom and fast deployment over a larger display.

Read the full review with live prices and price history at allthetoppicks.com

Published by Cast & Catch • allthetoppicks.com • April 2026

Prices and availability may have changed since publication. Always check the latest prices before purchasing.